

**JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2017 6:30 P.M.**

The meeting was opened with Abraham and Benjamin Yoder leading the pledge to the flag. Abraham and Benjamin were in attendance with their father and in their Boy Scout uniforms. Matt Sporleder asked them to lead the pledge.

Aaron Bell came with the annual report for the Southeastern Indiana Recycling District for 2016. He expressed concern on the amount of contamination in 2016. Two public containers were removed in Ripley County because of the continued contamination at those sites. Mr. Bell has the same concern about the public container in Butlerville; he is not sure how much longer that container will be allowed to stay on site. The cost to clean up the contamination is great and the continued disregard makes it hard to justify leaving the container on that site. The District has had to reinstate the fees on Electronics and after 21 years there is a fee increase on tires. Mr. Bell thanked the County for their continued support and the Recycle Center that the County has is doing a great job.

Next on the agenda was Marie Shepherd, Director of Area Plan Commission on a rezone of property from Agricultural to Commercial Single Site. Mrs. Shepherd stated that Mark and Kimberly Corbin at 9960 N. State Hwy 7, Elizabethtown has made the request to rezone 1.66 acres at this site to be used for a Wedding venue. The property is in two counties; Bartholomew County actually has the barn being used for the venue and the portion in Jennings County is mainly the parking lot to be used.

There were neighbors in attendance that Mr. Sporleder asked to hear from before voting on this request. Karen Helton Burris lives right across the road and this property in question has always been agricultural since the 1960's. Ms. Burris admitted that the Corbin's have done a great job in cleaning up the property and are very nice people. Ms. Burris said there was a man who has purchased his first home just down from her and he said if he had know about a business going in so close he would not of purchased the home. Ms. Burris main concern are the accidents she believes will happen. She asked if a covenant could be placed in the ordinance where the ground would revert back to agricultural if ever sold. She said there are a lot of parking lots shown going in there.

Mark Corbin said that he had owned this property for 5 to 6 years and has done a lot of clean up on the property. Mr. Corbin believes he should be able to have a business on property he owns and he has met with INDOT and has met the criteria that they required. Bartholomew County has already passed on their part of the venue and he hopes that the Commissioners will pass his request for Jennings.

Teresa Carson and Judy Romine also voiced their concern about the extreme traffic already on the roads and that there are no burns on the road where you can get off. They believe adding another business

will promote more accidents and urges to Commissioners to veto this request. Both ladies said that the Corbin's have done a lot of improvements to the property and they are good people, but they do not want this business to open.

Mr. Sporleder stated that Hwy 7 is a highly traveled road and the traffic may or may not be affected with the addition of this business.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve the rezoning request for Mark Corbin at 9960 N State Hwy 7, Elizabethtown from Agricultural to Commercial Single Site with the stipulation of the property reverting back to agricultural zoning if sold. David Lane seconded the motion; Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next was Jodi Comer with the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning with Don Biehle from the Campbell Twp. Fire Department coming to let the Commissioners know that Purdue has offered to give the fire department ground to build their fire department building on. Purdue would like the ground to be deeded to the County and then the county would lease it to the fire department for at least 20 years. If for any reason the fire department would dissolve or disband, then the land would revert back to Purdue. Matt Sporleder asked Mr. Biehle if he had his matching funds all accounted for because he would not be in favor of the land being deeded to the County if there was a debt involved. Mr. Biehle assured the Commissioners that there would be no debt involved in the transaction.

Bob Willhite made a motion to allow Purdue to donate the 6 acres of land to the County with no debt attached. Dave Lane seconded the motion; Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next Jodi Comer let the Commissioners know that the Hayden Sewer Project is done and will be having a pre final walk through on February 28, 2107. Ms. Comer brought a Grantee Performance Report for Matt Sporleder to sign for the closing of the project.

Ms. Comer also presented the Commissioners with an award from Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch to Jennings County for their designation of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs on the Wastewater and Drinking Water Program. This is in recognition of the County's dedication to improve the quality of water and wastewater and assist in financing appropriate water and sewer infrastructure for communities and counties that have planned and set priorities for long-term development.

Ms. Comer stated that the bid for the Burnt Pines Water Project came under bid.

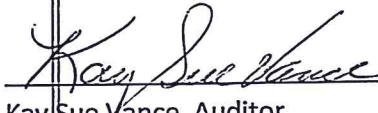
Bob Willhite made a motion to approve prior minutes; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign claims; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.




Bob Willhite made a motion to adjourn; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.

Attest:



Kay Sue Vance, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President



Robert Willhite



David Lane